

1400 South 19th Bozeman, MT 59718

November 28, 2001

TO: Governor's Office, Todd O'Hair, Room 204, State Capitol, P.O. Box 200801, Helena, MT 59620-0801 Environmental Quality Council, Capitol Building, Room 106, P.O. Box 201704, Helena, MT 59620 Dept. Environmental Quality, Metcalf Building, P.O. Box 200901, Helena, MT 59620-0901 Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks

Director's Office

Parks Division

Fisheries Division

Wildlife Division

Lands Section

Design & Construction Bureau

Legal Unit

FWP Commissioners

Dennis Flath

MT Historical Society, State Historic Preservation Office, POB 201202, Helena, MT 59620-1202

MT State Parks Association, P.O. Box 699, Billings, MT 59103

MT State Library, 1515 E. Sixth Ave., POB 201800, Helena, MT 59620

James Jensen, Montana Environmental Information Center, POB 1184, Helena, MT 59624

Janet Ellis, Montana Audubon Council, POB 595, Helena, MT 59624

George Ochenski, POB 689, Helena, MT 59624

Gallatin County Commissioners, Gallatin County Courthouse, 311 West Main, Bozeman, MT 59715

Jerry DiMarco, P.O. Box 1571, Bozeman, MT 59771

Montana Wildlife Federation, P.O. Box 1175, Helena, MT 59624

Wayne Hurst, P.O. Box 728, Libby, MT 59923

Glenn Hockett, 745 Doane Road, Bozeman, MT 59715

Bob Raney, 212 So. 6th, Livingston, MT 59047

Skyline Sportsmen's Association, P.O. Box 173, Butte, MT 59701

Anaconda Sportsman's Club, #2 Cherry, Anaconda, MT 59711

Jefferson Valley Sportsman's Association, P.O. Box 663, Whitehall, MT 59759

Prickly Pear Sportsman's Association, 1721 Virginia Dale Street, Helena, MT 59601

Tom Sather, Headwaters Fish & Game Association, P.O. Box 1941, Bozeman, MT 59771-1941

Perry Backus, 65 Redtail, Dillon, MT 59725

John Gatchell, Montana Wilderness Association, P.O. Box 635, Helena, MT 59624

William Fairhurst, Public Lands Access Association, P.O. Box 247, Three Forks, MT 59752

Jack Atcheson, State Lands Coalition, 3210 Ottawa Street, Butte, MT 59701

Ponderosa Pines Ranch, 12452 Clarkston Road, Three Forks, MT 59752

Terry Wubben, 6010 Pearl Drive, Amsterdam, MT 59741

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen:

Thank you for your interest in Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks' proposed Improvement Project for the Fairweather Fishing Access Site located on the Missouri River, 16 miles north of Three Forks. The project

proposes realigning and building 2500 feet of new access road, building a parking lot and cul-de-sac; constructing a hard surface boat ramp; erecting signs; installing a sealed vault latrine; and reclaiming the old road and site. An Environmental Assessment (EA) was prepared on the project, and it analyzed three additional alternatives as well as the preferred action.

A legal notice was placed in the Bozeman Daily Chronicle, the Independent Record, The Three Forks Herald and the Townsend Star newspapers for the review of the Draft Environmental Assessment. It was sent to a distribution list and was put on the State of Montana Electronic Bulletin Board for review. There was a 30-day comment period, which ended October 29, 2001. No comments were received.

Based on the analysis in the Environmental Assessment, I have determined that the process has satisfactorily complied with the Montana Environmental Policy Act. The proposed action poses no significant impact to the natural or human environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement will not be prepared. The decision has been made to proceed with the preferred action alternative as described in the EA. Any comments may be made to Fish, Wildlife & Parks, Cherry River FAS Improvements, 1400 South 19th, Bozeman, MT 59718, or email tgreason@montana.edu. This decision adopts the Draft Environmental Assessment as the final document.

Sincerely,

Patrick J. Flowers

Regional Supervisor